Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission Landmarks 101



A Primer on Local Preservation Districts and Individual Landmarks



### LANDMARKS ORDINANCE

Ordinance Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission #32.250

Enabling legislation that creates the ability of the Landmarks Commission to designate Individual Landmarks and Preservation Districts

Establishes the review process for exterior changes to Landmark properties.



## Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission

City Commission established in 1974 to protect the historic structures and properties

Initiated by local concerned citizens, primarily in response to extensive demolition in inner city/ Old Louisville

County Landmarks Commission
Commissions were merged in 2003



## Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission

Historic preservation as primary mission Modeled after the NYC Landmarks Commission

Designation as a key tool in preservation, also public outreach and education

Designated properties require review and approval for exterior change, including demolition

Undesignated properties have no protection from demolition and maximum 30-day notice to the councilperson and on-site posting.



# What the Preservation Ordinance Requires once Designation is Approved

Demolition, new construction, and exterior alterations review based on Design Guidelines

Guidelines developed on the basis of recommendations of neighborhood property owners to address neighborhood character

Architectural Review Committee (ARC) composed of property owners, design and real estate professionals, and commissioners.

Public notice and input concerning significant changes in the neighborhood



## Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission

A 13-member commission comprised of citizen volunteers that are appointed to serve by the Mayor and approved by Metro Council.

Regular meetings scheduled on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00 am and open to the public.

Special hearings for Landmark designations as warranted.



#### **Landmarks Commission Staff**

Landmarks staff are full-time employees of Louisville Metro Government. Staff comprised of preservation professionals, architects, and landscape architects.

Work directly with the public to assist property owners in districts and individual landmark buildings.

Approve staff-level Certificate of Appropriateness and prepare reports to the ARCs as case managers.



# Architectural Review Committees (ARC)

Each Preservation District has its own ARC plus there is an ARC for Individual Landmarks

Members are residents, architects, realtors, Landmarks Commissioners plus the Director of Codes and Regulations (or designated appointee) sits on all of the ARCs.

Regular meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.



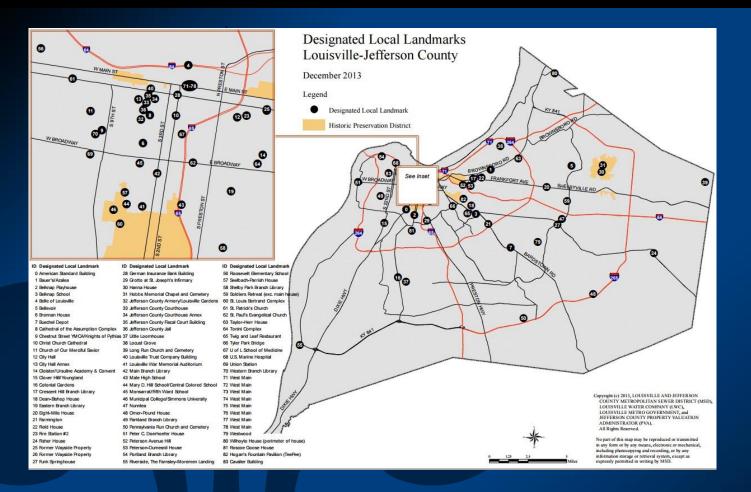
## Individual Landmarks and Preservation Districts

There are 83 Individual Landmarks.

There are seven districts currently designated in Metro Louisville with over 6000 properties.

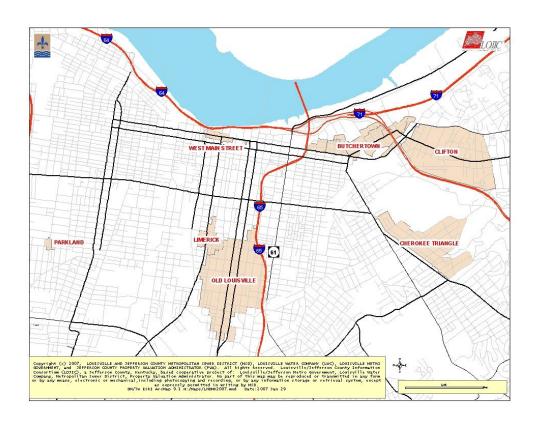
Old Louisville
Cherokee Triangle
West Main
Parkland
Limerick
Butchertown
Clifton







### 7 Preservation Districts





#### **Certificate of Appropriateness**

Required approval needed before work starts on a Landmark property.

Application is submitted to Landmarks for review.

Staff-level Certificate of Appropriateness has a 2-week review period.

ARCs review for demolition, new construction, work that is more than 25% of the value of the structure.

Staff or ARC may request other types of work activity to be reviewed by the ARC.



#### **Design Guidelines**

All exterior alterations reviewed according to Guidelines

Based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

https://louisvilleky.gov/government/planning-design/standard-design-guidelines



#### Historic Preservation in Louisville

Federal Government – primarily via "106 Review" associated with expenditures of Federal funds, Historic Rehabilitation Tax credits, Secretary of the Interior – Standards and National Register

State Government – State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) at the Kentucky Heritage Council

Local Government – Metro Historic Preservation Officer, Programmatic Agreement, Historic Landmarks & Preservation Districts Commission

Private Interest Groups – Preservation Kentucky, Preservation Louisville, Louisville Historical League, Neighborhood Planning and Preservation, Riverfields, etc.



#### Local vs. National

Local Designation is a local act and administered by Landmarks Commission

Has local oversight including specific protection against demolition and unkind alterations

Many locally designated properties are also NR

National Register listing is a national designation administered by the National Park Service

National Register provides recognition and tax credit possibilities but no protection from demolition, unless Federal money involved



#### For More Information:

Contact Landmarks Commission staff at 574-6230 Visit our web site at www.louisvilleky.gov

